

have been identified, and from this arrive at the conclusion that they present the closest resemblance to the jaws of Annelids and of certain Gephyrea. They give a list of three simple and four composite forms of Conodonts described and figured by Pander, which they identify with Annelid jaws figured by Ehlers, finding an agreement between the fossil and recent forms not only in external, but also in histological characters. In connexion with this comparison the authors call attention to the fact that in the Annelids there is in both jaws an alternation of teeth of a simple conical form with those resembling the so-called composite Conodonts—that is to say, those in which the base of the organ is widened and bears two or more small points on each side of the large central cone. The Gephyrean, *Halicryptus spinulosus*, which is very abundant in the Baltic, also possesses denticles remarkably resembling Conodonts both in form and structure.

The authors conclude their paper as follows:—“As the result of our investigations, therefore, it appears that in their structure the Conodonts have nothing in common with the teeth, composed of dentine, of the Selachia or any other fishes, nor with the corneous teeth of the Cyclostomi, and that they cannot be interpreted as lingual denticles of Mollusca, hooks of Cephalopoda, or fractured points of Crustacea, but that they agree admirably both in form and structure with the buccal apparatus of Worms, and especially of Annelida and Gephyrea.

“Consequently not only those already recognized by Hinde as Annelid jaws, but all the Conodonts, are calcified cuticular buccal or œsophageal denticles of Worms, consisting of parallel lamellæ superimposed upon each other. From the great multiplicity of form we may conclude that the Conodonts are derived from numerous genera and species, and that consequently, in the Palæozoic era, the shores of the sea were peopled with a great abundance of Worms of very different kinds.”—*Sitzungsb. der k. bayr. Akad. der Wiss., Math.-phys. Classe*, 1886, pp. 108–136, with 2 plates.

*Note on the Reptiles and Batrachians collected by Captain Em. Storms in the Tanganyika Region.* By M. L. DOLLO.

In this paper M. Dollo enumerates the species of Reptiles and Batrachia collected by Capt. E. Storms in the neighbourhood of Lake Tanganyika, and describes two new forms. The Batrachia recorded are *Rappia marmorata*, Günth., and *Bufo regularis*, Reuss. The known species of Reptiles are *Agama atricollis*, Smith, *A. planiceps*, Peters, *Varanus niloticus*, Linn., *Euprepes varius*, Pet., *Chamæleon dilepis*, Leach, *C. gracilis*, Hallowell, *Typhlops Schlegelii*, Bianconi, *Boodon infernalis*, Günth., *Bucephalus capensis*, Smith, *Philothamnus Smithi*, Bocage, *Psammophis sibilans*, Jan, *Rhamphiophis rostratus*, Pet., *Atractaspis Bibronii*, Smith, *Causus rhombeatus*, Licht., and *Vipera arietans*, Schleg.

The new species are both snakes. The Colubrine *Grayia Giardi*, Dollo, is distinguished from *Grayia silurophaga*, Günth., by having the anterior temporal single instead of double, three instead of two

postoculars, both the fourth and fifth labials touching the eye, and nineteen instead of seventeen longitudinal rows of scales. Günther's species lives in West Africa, and received its specific name from the fact that the specimen described had two Siluroid fishes in its digestive tube; M. Dollo found in his the hind limbs of an Anurous Batrachian.

The second new form is referred to the Elapidæ, and constitutes a new genus allied to *Naja*, but distinguished from all known Elapidæ by the following characters:—

“A series of three or four simple teeth behind the poison-fangs. Rostral moderate. Two nasals, in contact with the preocular. Two postoculars. Neck not dilatable. Scales not arranged obliquely, smooth, in twenty-one longitudinal series. Anal single. Urostega double.”

The genus is named *Boulengerina*, in honour of Mr. G. A. Boulenger, and the species *B. Stormsi*, after its discoverer.—*Bull. du Mus. Roy. d'Hist. Nat. de Belgique*, tome iv. pp. 151–157.

On *Spongilla glomerata*, Noll. By Dr. F. VEJDovský.

The author notes that the freshwater sponge lately described by Noll under the name of *Spongilla glomerata* (Zool. Anz. Nov. 1886, p. 682) is identical with *Spongilla fragilis*, Leidy, the synonymy of which species is as follows:—

*Spongilla fragilis*, Leidy (1851), Vejdovský (1884), Wierzejski (1885, 1886), F. Petr (1885, 1886), Potts (1885).

*Spongilla Lordii*, Bowerbank (1863), Wierzejski (1884).

*Spongilla contecta*, Noll (1870), Retzer (1883).

*Spongilla sibirica*, Dybowski (1878–84) \*.

The author further remarks upon the presence of a layer of air-chambers in the envelopes of the gemmules of freshwater sponges, such as *S. fragilis*, *Trochospongilla erinaceus*, *Euspongilla lacustris*, *Ephydatia Mülleri*, &c., and gives the following list of the known European species of the group:—

- |   |                     |  |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Fam. Spongillidæ.                       |                     | b. Subfam. MEYENINÆ, Cart.                 |
| a. Subfam. SPONGILLINÆ, Cart.           | I. Genus SPONGILLA. | II. Genus TROCHOSPONGILLA, Vejd.†          |
|   | 1. Genus SPONGILLA. | 4. <i>Trochospongilla erinaceus</i> , Ehr. |
| a. Subgen. <i>Euspongilla</i> , Vejd.   |                     | III. Genus EPHYDATIA, Gray, nec Lam.       |
| 1. <i>Euspongilla lacustris</i> , Aut.  |                     | 5. <i>Ephydatia Mülleri</i> , Lieb.        |
| 2. <i>Euspongilla rhenana</i> , Retzer. |                     | 6. <i>Ephydatia fluviatilis</i> , Aut.     |
|   |                     | 7. <i>Ephydatia bohémica</i> , Petr.       |
| β. Subgen. <i>Spongilla</i> .           |                     | IV. Genus CARTERIUS, Potts.                |
| 3. <i>Spongilla fragilis</i> , Leidy.   |                     | 8. <i>Carterius Stephanowii</i> , Petr.    |

*Zoologischer Anzeiger*, no. 239, Dec. 6, 1886, p. 713.

\* The notion that *Spongilla sibirica*, Dyb., is identical with *S. fragilis*, Leidy, was first put forward by Mr. H. J. Carter.

† This genus is represented in the American fauna by *Trochospongilla Leidyi*.